

THE REPUBLICANS MOVING.

MEETING OF THEIR LEADING LIGHTS IN COLUMBIA.

A State Convention called—Plans for Gathering the Faithful into the Fold—Brayton's Brilliant Scheme.

(From the Columbia Daily Record, March 6.)

A meeting was held this afternoon that a few years ago would have brought with it great interest to the people of South Carolina.

It was no less or no more a thing than the meeting of the State Executive Committee of the Republican Party of South Carolina. The morning trains brought in a number of somewhat mysterious, but familiar looking personages whose coming was unexpected to the common, everyday, ordinary, casual man about town. A Record reporter soon scented music in the air, and casting about for the organ and its performers discovered them in the office of Mr. E. M. Brayton, in the Central Bank building, janus clausus and not even a key hole to crawl through or a loquacious sergeant-at-arms to "pump."

By dint of assiduous inquiring and the assumption of an innocent air, which he carries with him for such occasions, the reporter obtained a few pointers and is enabled to state what was done up to the time of going to press.

THE PERSONNEL OF THE PARTY.

The "make up" of the committee was very striking, there being present some of the most noted Republicans in the State, men whose names have been bruited about in more or less pleasant or unpleasant manner. The meeting was presented over by Mr. E. M. Brayton, and Mr. John A. Barre was in the secretary's chair. In the following list there will be recognized the leading Republicans of South Carolina:

E. M. Brayton, W. J. Whipper, W. D. Crum, T. B. Johnston, W. F. Myers, E. A. Webster, S. W. Legare, Robert Smith, Paris Simpkins, N. T. Tait, T. J. Loomer, F. L. Hicks, A. W. Curtis, John F. Loper, E. H. Hess, A. A. Swails, Z. E. Walker, P. S. Edwards, J. P. Boyden.

THE CONVENTION TO BE IN MAY.

The meeting was called to order at 1 o'clock and some time was consumed in the organization of the committee and the proper accreditation of the delegates. After some discussion it was decided to hold the State Convention on the first Tuesday in May.

While we go to press the committee is still in session and no further acts are obtainable at present. The members will leave the city this afternoon.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MEETING.

It is impossible just now to draw any conclusion touching the purpose of the Republicans, as indicated by their starting their organization at this time. Manifestly they have no hope of carrying the State, either in the national or the local fight. But this weakness of their party does not impair their standing in the National Convention. South Carolina will have fourteen votes in that Convention, notwithstanding her fourteen electoral votes. Then, again, if by some mischance the Republicans should elect their President the leaders in South Carolina will come in for a share of the loaves and fishes.

The corpse is not a lively one.

(From the Columbia Daily Record, March 7.) Before the appearance of THE RECORD on the streets yesterday afternoon few persons were aware that the former lights of the old Republican party had held a wake in this city over the political cadaver and had chanted the resurrection appeal. The thinness of the corpse had not enabled it to cast its shadow before, and the party leaders could not be seen.

In addition to the account given yesterday some other facts gained after the meeting will be of interest as indicating the way and wherefore of the rally, the present political purposes of the party and their intentions as brought out yesterday.

BRAYTON ON BALLOTS.

The committee devoted considerable time to the discussion of a bill prepared by Mr. Brayton on the suggestion of Senator W. L. Chamberlain, to amend the Federal election laws in South Carolina. The proposed bill is an effort to repeal the election laws of the State so far as they relate to Federal offices and place the machinery in the control of Congress. This bill is accompanied by a letter from Mr. Brayton charging the Democracy of the State with having virtually disfranchised the negro. Among its provisions are the following:

That the new registration shall be made in the months of July and August, of 1888, and thereafter in the same months in the year of each successive general election for Representatives in Congress.

That voters shall not be required to have or produce any certificate of registration as a prerequisite or qualification to the right of suffrage.

That the registration records shall be public and the list of voters published in a county newspaper at the expense of the State. That a change of residence within the county shall not defeat the right of an elector to vote for Representatives in Congress.

That four commissioners of election shall be appointed by the Governor, two from each of the two principal political parties, these commissioners to appoint four managers at each election precinct, also equally divided between the two parties.

That the ballots be marked or stamped by the managers, and only such shall be legal votes.

It is further provided that imprisonment for non payment of poll tax shall not include Congressional election day, and that "all Acts or parts of Acts of the United States and of the State of South Carolina inconsistent with this Act be thereby repealed, annulled and declared of no effect."

The committee arranged to bring this matter prominently before the party all over the State and to agitate it elsewhere as much as possible.

"HANS ALL ROUND." The menu included a thorough party reconciliation. The differences of 1884 between Messrs. Brayton and Tait, touching the State chairmanship, were healed by unanimous consent and it was resolved that henceforth they should join forces and that the organization, or what is left of it, should be solid against the Democrats.

WILL MAKE NO STATE TICKET. While the committee took no action as to running a State ticket it is evident that they are not in favor of such a course. The party will confine itself to the fight for the electoral ticket, to one or two Congressional tickets, and to a few county Congressional tickets, and to a few county Congressional tickets, and to a few county Congressional tickets.

THE STATE CONVENTION. As before reported, will be held on the first of May, and the delegates thereto will be chosen by the county conventions some time during this month. A denunciation of the present State election laws will be a prominent feature of these conventions.

SHERMAN THEIR FRIEND AND CHOICE. The committee expressed themselves as unequivocally in favor of John Sherman for President. His views on the Southern question are regarded by them as especially just to his party in this section, and they think him one their ablest men. Several members of the committee have held offices under Sherman and they believe in supporting him.

"WILL STRENGTHEN THE PARTY." The committee believe in the sincerity of Blaine's withdrawal from the Presidential race and look upon it as a good thing, calculated to relieve the National Convention of embarrassment and to strengthen the party generally.

SLAVE MARTS DEMOLISHED.

Evidence of the Old Order of Things Being Abolished.

Workmen have begun the demolition of probably the most historic building in Nashville, that known as the old slave mart, on the southwest corner of Cherry and Cedar streets, in order to begin the erection of a large block, which will comprise a hotel, stores and offices. The buildings extend from the old Freedmen's bank building, on Cedar street, to the corner of Cherry street, and thence up Cherry to the alley. This block is an old landmark, having been erected away back in the thirties. Since the war the corner has not borne the best reputation, as several very serious affairs have occurred there, and at times a portion of the block was used as a dive by rough characters. Many a raid has been made by the officers on the dens located in the block. The block is historic, because used as a slave mart before the war. In the rear of the building there is a high brick wall enclosing a court where the slaves were to be purchased. The iron bars are still on some of the doors, and the windows bear evidence of the character of the building. The main auction room opened out on Cedar street. This, however, has been divided into small stores. There was, in olden times, two other slave marts—one on Cedar, between Cherry street and the public square. This has been torn away and all evidence of it destroyed. The other one was on the corner of Cherry and Deadwood streets, and the high wall that surrounded the court now stands.

Excellent Advice.

"We welcome every success in the construction of a cotton factory in the South. The world is not yet half clothed, and there is work enough for us all in providing the cloth. The wonderful supplies of your oak bark will draw to you the hides for tanning, whether you will or no; and through the diversity even of agricultural labor, which is born of liberty, your home supply of hides will make you exporters of finished leather, besides supplying your own wants. Of what should we build our factories except we had the abundant supply of Southern pine? Your wealth of hard-wood timber compels you to develop all the arts of the wood-worker, sending the partly-finished material for the present to the North to be completed. And you will have to send till the men in the work shops of the South have learned the fine art which accompanies the comprehension of the difference between a cent and a nickel. The factory, the mine and the metal works have their true place, but their importance must not be exaggerated. The collective work which can be carried on by the factory principle of great subdivision of labor and by the bringing together of large numbers of people under one roof or under one control now gives occupation to less than one in ten of all those who are occupied for gain in this country, the workers numbering about one in every three of the population. The other nine work with brain or hand where the work is to be done, and each one depends on his own personal capacity for his success. The product of the dairy exceeds that of any single branch of the textile industry, and it is nearly equal to that of the whole. The value of the hens' eggs consumed every year in the United States is greater than that of pig iron. We must maintain the true balance of power in industry, as in politics and in the science of government. To these lesser arts chief attention should be given in a country which has been so long devoted almost exclusively to some of the cruder products of agriculture."—Edward Atkinson in The South.

Conspirators Arrested.

CHARLESTON, S. C., March 7.—J. H. Bond, Mrs. Julia Bond, J. O. Bond, Dr. L. M. Shafer and his son, R. E. L. Shafer, with others, were arrested here to-day upon the charge of defrauding the supreme council of the Royal Templars of Temperance out of \$20,000, by feigning the death of John O. Bond, who is really alive. Mrs. Bond and John O. Bond were discharged from custody upon swearing that their names were not on all of the papers of the order. Dr. Shafer and son, J. A. Robinson, and J. A. Robinson, Jr., were also arrested on the charge of defrauding the same organization out of \$20,000 by certifying to the death of the fictitious John R. Lyman. Dr. Shafer and son and John H. Bond were committed to jail in default of bail. The Robinsons are out on bail in both cases. Dr. James P. Bond and Thomas Bond, who figured in the Dudley case, are also indicted. The conspiracy is one of the most remarkable ever known in this State. "Eva Morris, the woman who played 'Mrs. Lyman' in the fraud practiced by the Bonds of Charleston, to get insurance money on the life of one Lyman, has made a full confession. The two Bond brothers and Dr. Shafer have been arrested in Charleston, and Morris is in jail in Greenville. Other developments are expected.

A PREACHER CURED OF DYSPENSIA.

MICROSCOPIC, FLA., Leon Co., July 20, 1886.—I have been a sufferer from indigestion and dyspepsia for a long time, and have tried many remedies, but until I was induced by my friends to try your B. B. B. received no relief, but since using it have found more relief and comfort than from any other treatment I have used. Hoping you will forward to my address your little 32-page book for prescription also evidence of cure. Send at earliest date. Rev Rob't C.

IT GIVES SATISFACTION.

ORLANDA, FLA., June 1st, 1887. We have been selling Botanic Blood Balm ever since it first came before the public. We sell more of it than any other blood purifier in the market, and it gives perfect satisfaction.

J. H. Menges & Co.,

Retail and Wholesale Dealers in Botanic Blood Balm.

Breadth of Death of a Little Boy. A very sad and distressing accident occurred on the South Carolina railway about 10 o'clock yesterday morning, while the morning train from Columbia was on its way to Charleston. The train was running very fast to make up lost time and had reached a point about seven miles east of Orangeburg, when the engineer noticed a lot of sheep on the track. Not knowing that there was any body on the track, the engineer did not stop, thinking that the sheep would get out of the way.

When they cleared off the track a little child was discovered between the rails playing in the sand. The distance was too short to stop the train, and the child was run over and killed, being literally torn to pieces by the train. The train was brought to a stop as soon as possible and was backed to the scene of the accident, where the dead child, a tender boy, three years old, was found in the tender arms of his mother, whose grief was terrible and who met even the roughest of the passengers with a demand to leave the train.

The child was the son of Mr. J. T. Robinson, a well-to-do planter on the roadside.

BRIC-A-BRAC.

THEY COULDN'T TRADE.

I met a maid on your hillside, And she was fair to see; "Give me a kiss, fair maid," I cried; "Give me a gift," said she. "A gift within a purse I have, The purse is in a pack; The pack in keeping lies safe On my good charger's back. "And my good charger cometh not While on the hill I roam; He lieth in his stall, I wot— My charger is at home. "And yet thou dost have a kiss, good sir; My lips would give thee that. But they are locked fast, good sir; My mother has the key. "And my good mother is not here, While on the hill I roam; Just as your trusty steed, good sir, My mother is at home. "A clean shirt is not a bad bosom friend "Put up and shut up!"—The stoves and doors. "A sweeping statement—That ancient one about the new broom. The critics who expect warmth and color in instrumental music should study the steam whistle. A philosopher is a man who may think a great deal, but who never seems to do much. "This is a cold, backward spring," said the man whose feet had just shot from under him on a slippery sidewalk. Some thoughtlessly overladen the horse, and then wonder when the education thus given develops an obstinate, balky animal. The number of women who care to vote is about equal to the number of men who like to put the baby to sleep. "Do you love me?" "With all my soul. I swear it." "Nay, do not swear. Speak it into the phonograph, and that will be enough. There is a question about the validity of a marriage by telephone, but we should think any level-headed judge would decide that it is a "sound" proposal. How to make a fortune as a journalist—Go into some other business and exercise your journalistic talent by telling people privately how a newspaper ought to be run. There are in the Sunday-schools of the Christian world 16,447,890 scholars, 1,932,167 teachers, making a grand total of 18,400,037. You see, the trouble with "success" that is too dearly bought is that you have got to go on associating with yourself after you have attained it. "There is another fashionable institution that should be on the list of the lecturer on hygiene," "and that is the bustle." And every lady in the audience gave vent to an audible titter. Married men are preferred as officers on the police force. The authorities want men who have their courage tried and proved. If the sudden changes in the weather affect you disagreeably, it is no less unpleasant for your animals to endure. Make them as comfortable as possible. Oysters do not claim to be the lords of creation, and yet they are probably served in more ways and by more people than any other living creature. Young writers in preparing their manuscript should leave plenty of space between the lines. The world would not suffer much if many of them should make it all space. Tobacco stems are now being used in making paper; on the principle, we suppose that turn about is fair play, all the straw every year having been utilized long ago in the manufacture of cigars. A man who wanted to be facetious with the milkman as he was measuring out his morning portion said, "Do you charge extra for the water?" "No," replied the milkman; "the water is thrown in."

Wife—Now this is the third time I've caught you in the kitchen talking to the cook. Husband—Yes, I—I believe it is. Wife—Well, the very next time I catch you talking to the cook I'll discharge her—and do the cooking myself!

"Did you enjoy the opera last night, inquired his wife. "Not much," he answered; "I was lonesome, and was sorry I was detained at the office so late that I hadn't time to come for you. This coming alone to the theatre isn't what it's cracked up to be, my dear." "No, I suppose not," returned the lady, thoughtfully. "Still you must have been very comfortable," she added, as the two ticket stubs I found in your vest pocket gave you the advantage of more than one seat."

WHAT LACK WE YET?

When Washington was president, As cold as any icicle, He never on a railroad went, And never rode a bicycle. He read by no electric lamp, Nor heard about the Yellowstone; He never liked a postage-stamp, And never saw a telephone. His trousers ended at his knees; By wire he could not words dispatch; He filled his lamp with whale-oil grease, And never had a match to scratch. But in these days it's come to pass, All work is with such dashing done, We've all these things—but then, alas! We seem to have no Washington.

PIANOS AND ORGANS.

We are prepared to sell Pianos and Organs of the best make at factory prices for Cash or easy Installments. Pianos from \$210 up; Organs from \$24 up. The verdict of the people is that they can save the freight and twenty-five per cent. by buying of us. Instruments delivered to any depot on fifteen days' trial. We pay freight both ways if not satisfactory. Order and test in your own homes. Respectfully, N. W. TRUMP, Columbia, S. C.

George Fare, the Virginia pilot who was

carried off from Norfolk by a British vessel evading arrest, has returned home. He says he was well treated. The owners of the vessel have written a letter to the American consul at Liverpool saying that their captain did not intentionally evade arrest and they regret the incident.

The Atlanta board of aldermen have killed a measure for free books to public schools. The measure was passed through council by a vote of the anti-prohibitionists, but opposed by the prohibitionists because books were to be purchased with money received from whisky licenses. The prohibitionists carried their point.

Secretary Fairchild, in his report submitted to Congress early in December, estimated that the treasury surplus would reach \$140,000,000 by the end of the present fiscal year. It is now stated at the Treasury Department that owing to heavy receipts during the past few months the estimate then submitted will prove too small, and that the surplus at the end of June, 1888, will probably reach \$155,000,000.

The Lutheran Church in the United States is growing at a rapid rate. It numbers 4,234 ministers and 1,000,000 communicant members. The census of 1880 gave the United States a Lutheran population of 3,500,000 souls and in an article published by Rev. Dr. Jacobs, of Philadelphia, last week, he sets forth the statistics of 5,000,000 souls. The Church has doubled her membership every fourteen years, and is now third in strength among the Protestant churches of America.

RIVERS AND HARBORS.

Captain Bixby's Views as to the Benefits Conferred by the River and Harbor Works.

WILMINGTON, N. C., March 3, 1888.

EDITOR COLUMBIA RECORD:

SIR—I enclose you an article on the subject of the governmental improvement of the North and South Carolina rivers and harbors in my charge.

A perusal of these few lines will, I am sure, convince you of the value of such work to your State, your neighborhood, and even to every individual living in the vicinity of such streams.

If my views on the subject should appear to you as sound, will it not be for the mutual interests of yourself, your followers, your fellow citizens and your State, that these views should be strongly upheld and even urged by you and them? Is not the creation of a strong public opinion in your locality the best means of bringing your influential and leading men to see the matter in its true light?

Hoping that the improvement of your river and harbors, and that through it the development of your neighborhood and State, will receive from you the hearty support merited by the results as shown in my letter, I remain, very respectfully, your obedient servant, W. H. BIXBY, Captain of Engineers, U. S. A.

(From the Wilmington Review.)

UNITED STATES ENGINEER OFFICE,

WILMINGTON, N. C., April 23, 1887.

EDITOR DAILY REVIEW.—At your request I send you a few lines concerning the benefits to North and South Carolina caused by the governmental improvement of their rivers and harbors.

Few people realize the advantageous commercial, agricultural, and colonizing effects produced by the governmental improvement of rivers and harbors of the United States, and especially of the South Atlantic and Gulf States.

The rivers and creeks of the South Atlantic and Gulf States are, as a rule, straits and gentle slope, considerable length and moderate depth, obstructed mainly by sunken logs, snags, and fallen or overhanging trees. Were these latter obstructions thoroughly removed (usually readily done at a comparatively small cost) these rivers and creeks would at once appear in their true role of natural and economical waterways, similar to and rivaling the artificial and more expensive canals of the Northern and Middle States. As soon as one of these streams is opened to commerce, the reduction in freight charges is so considerable as to encourage the rapid development of such towns as are already in existence along its length; and the certainty and cheapness of its freighting and traveling facilities authorize the establishment of continuous and extended settlements all along its banks over large areas of good land, until then so deprived of transportation facilities, that the sale of farm products would not even pay the expenses of their transport to the nearest market. More than this, the removal of obstructions from the bed and banks of the stream facilitates the free movement of water in the stream and aids so greatly the natural drainage of the river bottoms and other adjacent lands, that land until then malarious and sickly becomes fit for habitation and culture.

In this way, we readily see that the governmental improvement of such rivers and harbors not only increases the existing commerce of such water ways, but improves the drainage, culture, value and health of the adjacent lands, builds up the existing towns and encourages the settlement of previously uncultivated lands. In no other way can so small an expenditure of public money produce such valuable results in the development of the country at large.

As an example of this good work, let us look at the results obtained in the States of North and South Carolina during the last few years.

On the Trent River, N. C., since 1879, about \$42,000 has been spent in opening up about 40 miles of river, reducing freights by from 25 to 75 per cent., rendering marine insurance unnecessary, and increasing the commerce by \$250,000 per year thus showing a development of \$6 of annual commerce for each dollar once spent by the Government.

On the Contentment Creek, N. C., since 1881, about \$25,000 has been spent in opening up about 30 miles of river, reducing freights by from 12 to 50 per cent., and building up a commerce of \$400,000 per year, thus showing a development of \$25 of annual commerce for each dollar once spent by the Government. Besides this, the town of Washington, N. C., has increased 25 per cent. in population and property, and the town of Greenville has increased from 912 population and \$269,000 real estate in 1880 up to 2,500 population and \$600,000 real estate in 1886; the development of both these places since 1876 being almost entirely due to the river improvements.

On the Neuse River, N. C., since 1878, about \$209,000 has been spent in opening up about 70 miles of river, reducing freights by from 25 to 75 per cent. (the freight on cotton being 75 cents per bale, while it was formerly \$2.75 per bale by wagon and rail), rendering marine insurance unnecessary, and increasing the commerce by \$1,700,000 per year, thus showing a development of \$8 of annual commerce for each dollar once spent by the Government.

On the Waccamaw River, S. C., since 1880, about \$37,000 has been spent in opening up about 64 miles of river. Nothing but the obstructions offered by the S. C. R. R. and the W. C. & A. R. R. bridges, (mainly the S. C. R. R. bridge now deprive the adjacent fertile lands of Kershaw and Richland counties from the free transportation facilities to which they are justly entitled; and nothing but the obstruction offered by these bridges now prevents a development of river commerce (similar to that of the similarly situated Great Pee Dee River) which will probably amount at once to at least \$500,000 per year.

On the Congaree River, S. C., since 1886, about \$1,000 has been spent in fairly opening up 47 miles of river. Nothing but the obstructions offered by the S. C. R. R. bridge now deprives the fertile lands of Georgetown and Charleston; and nothing but the obstructions offered by this bridge now prevents a development of river commerce (similar to that of the similarly situated Great Pee Dee River) which will probably amount at once to over \$1,000,000 per year.

Although the above improvements have already produced such good results in the development of the country, these improvements are today not more than half completed; and there is every indication that further improvement will be accompanied by equally good results until the cost of such improvement shall amount to fully double what has been already spent by the general government. W. H. BIXBY, Captain of Engineers, U. S. Army.

(In charge of the improvement of the above described rivers.)

Benefit of River and Harbor Improvement in North Carolina and Northern South Carolina.

NAME OF RIVER OR HARBOR.	WORK UNDER PRESENT PROJECT.			RESULTS.		
	Date of Commencement.	Duration—Years.	Length of River Worked.	Total Expenditure.	Reduction of Freight Charges—Per Cent.	Development of Annual Commerce.
Trent River, N. C.	1879	8	40	\$42,000	25 to 75	\$250,000
Contentment Creek, N. C.	1881	6	30	\$25,000	12 to 50	\$400,000
Neuse River, N. C.	1878	9	70	\$209,000	25 to 75	\$1,700,000
Cape Fear River, above Wilmington, N. C.	1881	6	112	\$66,000	About 25	\$1,200,000
Waccamaw River, S. C.	1880	7	70	\$37,000	25 to 75	\$1,200,000
Great Pee Dee River, S. C.	1880	7	200	\$700,000	25 to 75	\$1,600,000
Totals			582	\$500,000		\$12,900,000
Average			38	\$71,428	35	\$1,850,000

1. The two towns on the river bank have nearly doubled in population and property.

2. The town of Greenville, on this river, has increased from 912 population and \$269,000 real estate in 1880 up to 2,500 population and \$600,000 real estate in 1886; almost entirely due to the river improvement.

3. The neighborhood of the river is steadily gaining in settlement and property under the influence of better transportation.

On the recently commenced, but unfinished improvements of Wakehay, between Beaufort Harbor and Beaufort, N. C.; Beaufort Harbor and New River, N. C.; (through Beaufort Sound) New River, N. C.; Black River, N. C.; Georgetown Harbor and Winyah Bay, S. C.; Santee River, S. C.; Cape Fear River, N. C., below Wilmington, the work is of too recent date or not sufficiently advanced to have produced the expected results.

On the improvements of Wateree River, S. C., and Congaree River, S. C., an ex-

pected development of from \$1,500,000 to \$3,000,000 of river commerce is prevented mainly by the bridge obstructions of the S. C. R. R. and on the improvements of Lockwood's Folly River, N. C.; Lumber River, N. C.; Little Pee Dee River, S. C.; Clark's Creek, S. C.; Black Mingo, S. C.; Alligator River, S. C., the work though recommended has not yet received any appropriation from Congress, but in all cases the present indications are that the completion of the improvements will give returns at least equal, if not superior, to those of the first deserts of Winyah Bay.

The speedy increase in the development of the Santee and Pee Dee River basins comprising two-thirds of the entire State of South Carolina, and a single immediate outlay of \$800,000 properly spent here would undoubtedly quickly develop an additional South Carolina commerce of \$8,000,000 per year.

W. H. BIXBY, Captain of Engineers, U. S. A.

WILMINGTON, N. C., February, 28, 1888.

A REVOLUTIONARY RELIC.

Discovery of Hidden Treasure That Has Been Sought for Years.

Several thousand dollars in old gold coin in earthen pots were exhumed by Lorenzo Mears, on his farm in Accomac county, Va., last week. A tradition in the neighborhood says a large amount of money was concealed on the farm during the American revolution by its Tory proprietor, who, having gone to England during the war, died there without fixing the spot where he had buried the money. Not many years ago some of the descendants of the old Tory proprietor came over here and spent several hundred dollars in making excavations in a fruitless search for the money. All the ground around the old house was thrown up and deep trenches were dug around the yard, signs of which still remain. It is said that these Englishmen, brought over with them an old negro who had been a servant of the Revolutionary proprietor, and who professed to know where his master had buried the money. The Englishmen finally gave up the search and went back to England.

Nothing more was heard of the treasure until Mear accidentally struck upon it while plantng some fence post around the yard. Mear tried to keep the matter a secret, but a little boy who lives with him went to the neighboring village of Pungoteague and let the secret out. He informed some persons there that his "Uncle Benzie" now had piles of money, having recently dug up an iron pot full of gold and silver which a stout man could hardly carry. Mear will not talk about his find, but to-day showed several gold coins to his neighbors. These coins are old English money, some of them being stamped with the image of Charles II., others with that of George III.

The place where the treasure was found was one of the oldest on the eastern shore of Virginia. Two hundred and fifty years ago it was seat of the Queen of Nandua, an Indian beauty, who ruled over the savage tribes that inhabited that region. Near by is the burial ground of the Nandua Indians. The creek has cut away the earth till many of the skeletons are exposed to view, and as the bank caves in from time to time the bones fall down into the water and drift with the ebbing tide out into the bay. Some of the skeletons are of giant size, and many of them are buried in coffins that were hewn out of solid logs. These whitening skeletons, as they protrude from the side of the cliff, present a ghastly spectacle.

Annual Statement.

Abstract of the tenth annual statement of the condition of the Valley Mutual Life Association of Virginia for the year ending December 31, 1887, as filed with the Comptroller General.

ASSETS.

Bonds and Mortgages.....\$81,764 18
Property (real and personal).....14,123 13
Furniture, &c.....577 76
Cash in National Valley Bank.....10,415 86
Cash in Office.....577 76
Cash in hands of agents and in process of collection.....14,213 41

Total Assets.....\$121,094 34

LIABILITIES.

Individual Credits (due members).....\$1,261 56
Am't due Female assessment act.....324 85
Bills payable.....4,000 00 \$5,586 41

Netassets 31 Dec. 1887.....\$115,507 03

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS DURING YEAR 1887.

Cash on hand Dec. 31, 1886.....\$ 4,013 47
Premiums and Annuals received.....36,873 30
Interest on Redemption Fund invested.....4,808 45
Advance payments by policy-holders.....6,033 76
Assessments.....238,720 67
Investments paid in by borrowers.....13,012 69
Bills discounted from time to time.....30,000 00

Aggregate Receipts in 1887.....\$394,362 34

DISBURSEMENTS.